

# Lifting Up The STANDARD

“When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him” (Isaiah 59:19).



Challenging And Encouraging God's Remnant To Remain Faithful

## “I Would Know The Truth”

“I would know the truth...” (Daniel 7:19:3).

Article 1



### Daniel Prayed For The Truth

Jesus said in John 8:32, “*Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*” In Daniel 7:19, Daniel said, “*I would know the truth...*” Then in First Timothy 4:3, Paul referred to “*them which believe and know the truth.*”

### Daniel Set His Heart For The Truth

God’s Response To Daniel

In Daniel 10:2, the Lord said to Daniel, “*Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words.*”

There was a time, there was a “*first day*” when Daniel said before God, “*Yes, I want the truth. I would know the truth.*” God heard that prayer. God knew Daniel’s heart. The word “*chasten*” here has been translated “*humble*” eleven times. Daniel’s prayer and Daniel’s humility got God’s attention.

**We cannot believe an unsound doctrine and live a life according to the truth.** Daniel said, “*I want the truth,*” and, again, Jesus said in John 8:32, “*Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*” In Romans 7:15, that word “*know*” is translated “*allow.*”

### The Truth Is Expensive

We need to understand that the truth is very expensive, and for that reason, most people who name the name of Jesus Christ do not want to allow the truth to change them. Daniel said, “*I would know*

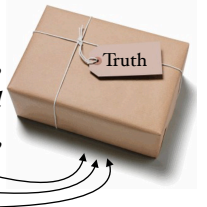
*the truth,*” and Jesus said that if we know the truth, if we allow the truth, the truth will make us free.

### A Willing Departure From The Truth

Speaking in the local church context, Paul said in First Timothy 4:1, that there was going to be some that shall “*depart from the faith,*” and then in verse two he said they will be “*speaking lies.*”

### A Package Deal

In the Book of Proverbs we read, Proverbs 23:23, “*Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.*”



If we are going to buy something, we are going to obtain it with an exchange for payment. To buy something is to invest in something. Again, if we are going to buy the truth, it's going to cost, and we're going to look at that in this series of articles concerning the truth. What will it cost you to buy the truth?

Then we read, once we have bought the truth, “*sell it not.*” If we’re going to sell something, we're going to give it up in exchange for something else. If we sell the truth we also sell, “*wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.*”

### Solomon Sold The Package

Solomon ended up selling the truth. How did he do that? First Kings 3:1 tells us that he made affinity with Pharaoh and took Pharaoh’s daughter to be his wife. In First Kings 4:26, it says Solomon had 40,000 stalls of horses for his chariots.

### Strange Wives And Horses

First of all, he was not to be taking on these strange wives; and second, kings were told straight out not to get horses. What's wrong with horses? The Bible says that *"some trust in chariots, some trust in horses"* (Psalm 20:7). God commanded the Kings of Israel to trust in Him. For Israel's kings to get horses and chariots would be like us gathering tanks and all kinds of artillery to fight a war, and God said to kings in Israel, *"You trust Me. I'll fight your wars."*

Solomon had 40,000 stalls for his horses. He also had taken Pharaoh's daughter to be his wife. In fact, First Kings 11:1 says that Solomon *"loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites."* In First Kings 11:2, God plainly said Israelites were not to intermarry with those people, and we read in First Kings 11:4 that Solomon's wives *"turned away his heart."* God said in First Kings 11:6 that *"Solomon did evil in the sight of the Lord,"* and First Kings 11:9 says *"...the Lord was angry with Solomon."*

When Solomon sold the package, he gave up his ability to discern the *truth*, his *wisdom*, his *instructions* from God, and his ability to *understand*. When he came to the end of his life, he said in Ecclesiastes 2:15, *"As it happeneth to the fool, so it happeneth even to me."*

**What happened?** His wisdom failed. Ecclesiastes 10:3 says, *"...when he that is a fool walketh by the way, his wisdom faileth him."* He also said in Ecclesiastes 11:5, those who sell the truth *"knowest not what is the way of the spirit."* That's what happened to Solomon. Selling the truth is a *"package deal."*

### Previously, It Was Solomon Who Had Said...

*"Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding"* (Proverbs 23:23). Again, when Solomon sold the truth he sold the whole package. That's what happened to Solomon. He lost his wisdom because he decided he wanted to do things his way rather than God's way.

## **The Reason Apostasy Prevails**

We are living in an age of apostasy. The Bible says in Second Timothy 4:4, *"And they shall turn away their ears from the truth..."*, and this explains why there is so little discernment amongst our so-called fundamental leadership of today. When we sell the truth, we sell the package.



*"As it happeneth to the fool, so it happeneth even to me"* (Ecclesiastes 2:15).

### The Lack of Wisdom And Understanding

We can't make sound decisions without wisdom. When we sell the truth, we are on our own. And concerning understanding, Ephesians 4:7-18, says that if we are going to walk as the heathens walk, we are going to have our *"understanding darkened."* Ephesians 5:9 says that the fruit of the Spirit includes *"truth."* Solomon said in Ecclesiastes 11:5 that he came to the end of his life and he *"knew not the way of the Spirit."* Why? Because he sold the truth, and the fruit of the Spirit includes truth. Again, Solomon ended his life saying in Ecclesiastes 2:15, *"As it happeneth to the fool, so it happeneth even to me."* What happened? He sold the truth.

First Timothy 2:4 says that God would have *"all men to be saved and come unto the knowledge of the truth."* First of all, this verse says that God would have *"all"* men to be saved. That word has been translated *"all"* 748 times. It's been translated *"every"* 117 times and *"everyone"* 28 times. God would have *"all men to be saved."* That puts an end to the heresy that Calvinism has promoted that God has determined that some will go to Hell.

We have a free book on our website, [www.fairhavensbaptist.net](http://www.fairhavensbaptist.net). It's entitled None Dare Call It Heresy, that deals with this Calvinist nonsense.

Second, God *“would have all men to...come unto the knowledge of the truth.”* God wants all men who are saved to know the truth. Jesus gave us a promise in John 16:13 that tells us when the Holy Spirit has come, *“He will guide you into **all** truth.”* Jesus didn't say *some truth*; he said *“**all** truth.”* Jesus didn't say *pleasant truth*, Jesus said, *“**all** truth.”*



Also, First Timothy 3:15 says that the local church is to be *“the pillar and ground of the **truth**.”* We have a responsibility as pastors to present the truth—**all of it**—and as we present the truth from the Word of God, the Holy Spirit will confirm the truth in the hearts of sincere listeners.

## **No Excuse For Ignorance**

Not only does the Bible say that God would have us to *“come to the knowledge of the truth,”* it also refers a lot about being ignorant. Isaiah 56:11, says the shepherds (pastors) were *“shepherds that **cannot understand**.”* Why couldn't they understand? As previously mentioned, Proverbs 23:23 spells it out. *“Buy the truth, and sell it not.”* We will not *be able* to understand the things of God if we sell the truth because we will lose *“wisdom, instruction, and understanding.”*

Verse ten says these *“watchmen are ignorant.”* Isaiah 56:11 says, *“They look to their own way for their own gain.”* The word “gain” here has been translated *“covetousness”* ten times, and it has to do with those who are leaders—pastors particularly—who are more interested in their personal desires than they are in the Word of God—*“I want a big church”* or *“I want to look good in the eyes of my peers”* or whatever the case may be. That was the problem in Isaiah's day.

## **Ignorance In The Local Church**

The problem didn't end in Isaiah's day. The New Testament warns about being ignorant.

- **Romans 1:13**, *“I would not have you ignorant...”*

- **Romans 11:25**, *“I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant...”*
- **First Corinthians 10:1**, *“...would not that ye should be ignorant...”*
- **First Corinthians 12:1**, *“...I would not have you ignorant.”*
- **Second Corinthians 1:8**, *“I would not, brethren, have them ignorant.”*
- **First Thessalonians 4:13**, *“I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren...”*
- **Second Peter 3:8**, *“But, beloved, be not ignorant.”*
- **Second Peter 3:5**, refers to them that are *“willingly are ignorant,”*
- **First Corinthians 14:38**, *“But if any man be ignorant, let him be ignorant.”*

We have read that the Lord would have us all come to *“the knowledge of the truth.”* The word *“truth”* is in the Bible thirty-five times in the context of the local church, which the Bible says is *“the pillar and ground of the **truth**.”* And when writing specifically to the pastor, Paul used the word *“truth”* twelve times. For instance, in First Timothy 2:4, Paul talked to that young pastor at Ephesus about *“the knowledge of the **truth**”*, and in Chapter 2:7, he said, *“I speak the **truth**”*; in Chapter 3:15, the church is *“the pillar and ground of the **truth**”*; in Chapter 4:3, *“believe and know the **truth**”*; in Chapter 6:5, Paul talked about those who were *“destitute of the **truth**.”*

And then again writing to the pastor, Paul said in Second Timothy 2:18, *“Who concerning the **truth** have erred.”* He wrote in 2:25 about *“repentance to the acknowledging of the **truth**.”* In Chapter 3:7 he talked about those who were *“ever learning but **never able** to come to the knowledge of the **truth**.”* In Chapter 3:8, Paul said, *“...these also resist the **truth**,”* and then in Chapter 4:4, he talked about those who *“turn away their ears from the **truth**.”*

Paul wrote to Titus, another pastor; and in Titus 1:1 he talked about the *“acknowledging of the **truth**”*, after that in Chapter 1:14, *“men that turn from the **truth**.”* Then he talked to the pastors in Acts 20:17, and in Acts 20:20 he said to these pastors, *“I kept back nothing,”* and he also said that



doing that *“was profitable unto them.”* In verse 27 he said, *“For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.”* He also said in verse 28 pastors are to, *“take heed...to feed...”*; God’s sheep.

He also warned pastors in verse 29 to watch out for those *“grievous wolves that will enter in among you, not sparing the flock.”* And then if that wasn’t bad enough, he said in verse 30, *“Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.”*

- **Wouldn't it be nice** if we lived in a world where there was no sickness, and we never heard about anybody who had to be rushed to the hospital?
- **Wouldn't it be nice** if there was no crime in the world, if nobody ever did anything wrong, nobody was cursing and swearing out there, nobody was coming up with things that are against the Scriptures? Wouldn't that be nice? Yes, it would be nice, but it's not the real world.
- **Wouldn't it be nice** if there were no wolves in sheep's clothing sneaking into our churches? It would be nice, but it's not the real church.
- **Wouldn't it be nice** if there was no one speaking perverse things, like what was happening when Paul wrote and said pastor, you've got to stop their mouths? That would be nice if that wasn't happening, but it was happening and it is happening today.

#### Wouldn't It Be Nice If All Truth Was Pleasant?

Paul's unpleasant truth included First Timothy 1:20 when he referred to, *“Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme.”* What Paul was doing there was exposing the hypocrites. Wouldn't it be nice if he didn't have to expose *“Hymenaeus and Philetus”* because their *“words do eat like a canker,”* as he said in Second Timothy 2:17-18?

- **Wouldn't it be nice** if in Second Timothy 3:8 Paul did not need to mention *“Jannes and Jambres”* who caused problems for Moses?
- **Wouldn't it be nice** if in Second Timothy chapter four Paul didn't have to talk about *“Demas”* who had forsaken him, *“having loved the present world”*?
- **Wouldn't it be nice** if he didn't have to talk in Second Timothy 4:14 about *“Alexander the coppersmith”* who did him much harm?
- **Wouldn't it be nice** if in Third John 1:9, John, the beloved disciple, didn't have to talk about *“Diotrephes”* because he loved *“to have the preeminence among them”*?
- **Wouldn't it be nice** if Jude didn't have to talk about those who *“ran greedily after the error of Balaam and perished in the gainsaying of Core”*?
- **Wouldn't it be nice** if Paul didn't have to talk openly exposing Peter because he caused *“other Jews dissembled likewise with him.”*? (Galatians 2:13).
- **Wouldn't it be nice** if Paul didn't have to expose Peter because *“Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation and other Jews dissembled likewise with him.”*? (Galatians 2:13).

### Bible Truth Includes Exposing Those Who Promote Error

Paul's truth included the unpleasant responsibility for pastors to expose those who promote unsound doctrine, publicly and by name. **Jesus, Jude, John, and Paul named the people who were apostate promoters, Peter included.** The pastor who does not name those who promote unsound doctrine is derelict in his God-given responsibility.

#### Why Apostasy Is Coming In Like A Flood

The greatest source of apostasy that is creeping into our churches today lays at the feet of the pastors who will not be faithful to their God-given command to expose by name those who are influencing Christians and *“overthrowing the faith of some.”*



Timothy, the pastor at Ephesus (written for our admonition), was to charge those who teach other doctrine. He wasn't told to invite them to a meeting and have some fellowship together. He was to charge them. The dictionary says *“to charge”* is *“to accuse someone of something, especially an offense that is contrary to the law.”*

In Titus 2:15 we read Titus was commanded to *“rebuke with all authority.”* He was to *“rebuke them sharply that they might be sound in the faith.”* There's not much of that going on today, and if you do that, you will be considered to have a bad spirit and to be unloving. If that is the case, Jesus, Jude, John, and Paul all had a bad spirit and were unloving according to that nonsense.

**Paul’s Final Message Was For Pastors**

If you look into First Timothy and Titus, you'll see that Paul went straight to the problem. He said there are some mouths that are influencing with unsound doctrine, and they must be stopped.

**Changing The Plan of Salvation Is Now Acceptable**

In our so-called Fundamental Independent Baptist movement, men have arisen that have said, we don't need to repent. Jesus, all those preachers in the Bible, and Godly preachers for the last 2,000 years apparently didn't know what they were talking about.

**We won’t get a crowd if we are going to tell people they have to repent.** The new common plan of salvation is to simply get people to pray a little forgiveness prayer like the Catholics do, and call them Christians. The problem with that is, **Jesus said, “Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.”** It is a very serious problem when someone messes with God’s plan of salvation, and it is a far more serious problem when we bury our heads in the sand and even promote those who promote *“another gospel.”*

**We're talking about the truth.** First Timothy 2:4 says that God *“would have all men to be saved and to*

*come to the knowledge of the truth.”* The truth in Timothy's day was that the wolves were coming in in sheep's clothing. Referring to wolves like **Hymenaeus and Philetus**, Paul said *“their words were eating like a canker.”* **Demas** had *“forsaken the ministry, having loved the present world.”* **Alexander the coppersmith** wolf was *“causing much harm.”* **Diotrephes** *“wanted the preeminence.”*

Now, it would be nice today if we didn't have this *“damnable heresy”*, no repentance plan of salvation, being presented by our so-called fundamentalists of today? That would be nice; however, that is not the real world we live in.

The Bible says at the end of the age, church people are going to *“turn away their ears from the truth.”* It would be nice if pastors would learn to do what we are commanded to do in First and Second Timothy, and that is to *“charge those who teach other doctrine.”* But a pastor can't do that and build a big church.

Jesus didn't build a big church; Jude and John and Paul the apostle didn't either. They just preached the truth, and that's what we're here to do, and it's time we got back to doing things God’s way.



*“That thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.”*

(First Timothy 3:15).



**A Partial List Concerning Truth**

- **Psalm 15:2**, Speaking - *“the truth.”*
- **Psalm 15:2**, Banner for displaying - *“the truth.”*
- **Proverbs 23:23**, Price tag concerning - *“the truth.”*
- **Isaiah 26:2**, Keeping - *“the truth.”*
- **Jeremiah 5:1**, Seeking - *“the truth.”*
- **Jeremiah 5:3**, Judgment concerning - *“the truth.”*
- **Jeremiah 9:3**, Not valiant for - *“the truth.”*
- **Daniel 7:19**, Daniel’s prayer for - *“the truth.”*
- **Daniel 8:12**, Casting down - *“the truth.”*
- **Daniel 11:2**, Revealing - *“the truth.”*
- **Micah 7:20**, Performing - *“the truth.”*
- **Zechariah 8:16**, Speaking - *“the truth.”*
- **Mark 5:33**, All - *“the truth.”*
- **John 5:33**, John preached - *“the truth.”*
- **John 8:32**, Know - *“the truth.”*
- **John 8:32**, Set free by - *“the truth.”*
- **John 8:40**, Killed Christ because of - *“the truth.”*
- **John 8:44**, Abiding not in - *“the truth.”*
- **John 8:45**, Jesus spoke - *“the truth.”*
- **John 8:46**, Refusing to believe - *“the truth.”*
- **John 14:6**, Only way to Heaven - *“the truth.”*
- **John 16:7**, Telling His disciples - *“the truth.”*
- **John 17:19**, Sanctification through - *“the truth.”*
- **John 18:37**, Witnessing - *“the truth.”*
- **John 18:37**, Voice of God is... - *“the truth.”*
- **Romans 1:18**, Those who hold - *“the truth.”*
- **Romans 1:25**, Those change - *“the truth.”*
- **Romans 2:8**, Those who obey not - *“the truth.”*
- **Romans 2:20**, A form of - *“the truth.”*
- **Romans 9:1**, Speaking - *“the truth.”*
- **Romans 15:8**, Confirming - *“the truth.”*
- **First Corinthians 13:6**, Rejoicing in - *“the truth.”*
- **Second Corinthians 4:2**, Manifestation of - *“the truth.”*
- **Second Corinthians 11:10**, No stopping - *“the truth.”*
- **Second Corinthians 12:6**, Speaking - *“the truth.”*
- **Second Corinthians 13:8**, No stopping - *“the truth.”*
- **Galatians 2:5**, Continuance of - *“the truth.”*
- **Galatians 2:14**, Walk according to - *“the truth.”*
- **Galatians 3:1**, Walking contrary to - *“the truth.”*
- **Galatians 4:16**, Making enemies with - *“the truth.”*
- **Galatians 5:7**, Disobeying - *“the truth.”*
- **Ephesians 4:15**, Speaking - *“the truth.”*
- **Ephesians 4:21**, Teaching - *“the truth.”*
- **Colossians 1:1**, Hope of - *“the truth.”*
- **Second Thessalonians 2:10**, Love of - *“the truth.”*
- **Second Thessalonians 2:12**, Damned without - *“the truth.”*
- **Second Thessalonians 2:13**, Believing - *“the truth.”*
- **First Timothy 2:4**, The knowledge of - *“the truth.”*
- **First Timothy 2:7**, Speaking - *“the truth.”*
- **First Timothy 3:15**, The local church and - *“the truth.”*
- **First Timothy 4:3**, Believe and know - *“the truth.”*
- **First Timothy 6:5**, Destitute of - *“the truth.”*
- **Second Timothy 2:18**, Erring concerning - *“the truth.”*
- **Second Timothy 2:25**, Acknowledging of - *“the truth.”*
- **Second Timothy 3:7**, Unable to know - *“the truth.”*
- **Second Timothy 3:8**, Resisting - *“the truth.”*
- **Second Timothy 4:4**, Turning from - *“the truth.”*
- **Titus 1:1**, Acknowledging - *“the truth.”*
- **Titus 1:14**, Being turned from - *“the truth.”*
- **Hebrews 10:26**, Willfully rejecting - *“the truth.”*
- **James 3:14**, Against - *“the truth.”*
- **James 5:19**, Erring from - *“the truth.”*
- **First Peter 1:22**, Obeying - *“the truth.”*
- **First John 1:6**, Rejecting - *“the truth.”*
- **First John 1:8**, Self-deception concerning - *“the truth.”*
- **First John 2:4**, Liars and - *“the truth.”*
- **First John 2:21**, Knowing - *“the truth.”*
- **First John 3:19**, Knowing we are of - *“the truth.”*
- **Second John 1:1**, Love in - *“the truth.”*
- **Third John 1:1**, Love in - *“the truth.”*
- **Third John 1:3**, Testifying - *“the truth.”*
- **Third John 1:8**, Helping others to know - *“the truth.”*
- **Third John 1:12**, Bearing record of - *“the truth.”*

**The word “truth” occurs 235 times  
in the Bible as follows...**

Gen (3)	Exo (2)	Deu (2)	Jos (1)
Jdg (1)	1Sa (2)	2Sa (2)	1Ki (3)
2Ki (3)	2Ch (2)	Est (1)	Job (1)
Psa (40)	Pro (9)	Ecc (1)	Isa (18)
Jer (8)	Dan (8)	Hos (1)	Mic (1)
Zec (4)	Mal (1)	Mat (3)	Mar (3)
Luk (5)	Jhn (22)	Act (3)	Rom (8)
1Co (3)	2Co (6)	Gal (5)	Eph (6)
Phi (1)	Col (2)	1Th (1)	2Th (3)
1Ti (5)	2Ti (6)	Tit (2)	Heb (1)
Jas (3)	1Pe (1)	2Pe (2)	1Jo (9)
2Jo (3)	3Jo (5)		